Intervenção do USA

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U.S. STATEMENT ON EAST TIMOR
FOURTH COMMITEE, OCTOBER 30, 1980

MY DELEGATION HAS LISTENED WITH GREAT INTEREST TO STATEMENTS ON EAST TIMOR MADE BY OTHER DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONERS BOTH.

WITHOUT DOUBT THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR HAVE SUFFERED GREATLY IN RECENT YEARS. THE IMPACT OF WARFARE ON A MARGINAL ECONOMY WAS DEVASTATING. THE U.S. POSITION ON THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THIS SITUATION IS WELL-KNOWN. OUR PRESENT OVERRIDING CONCERN IS THAT THE HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR ARE MET AND THEY DO NOT SUFFER FURTHER FROM POLITICAL OR MILITARY DISPUTES.

THE GREAT SUFFERING IN EAST TIMOR REQUIRED ASSISTANCE FOR THE MOST BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF ITS PEOPLE. IT IS TO THIS THAT MY GOVERNMENT HAS SOUGHT TO RESPOND. WE WELCOMED AND SUPPORTED THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS AND CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES TO BEGIN HUMANITARIAN RELIEF PROGRAMS IN EAST TIMOR.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS CONTRIBUTED $14.3 MILLION TO THESE PROGRAMS TO DATE, AND HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION THROUGH THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN EAST TIMOR. IN RECOGNITION OF LONG-STANDING SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS IN TIMOR, MY GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO CONTRIBUTED $3.6 MILLION FOR A MALARIA CONTROL PROGRAM IN EAST TIMOR.

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WE NOTE THAT SINCE THE INITIATION OF THESE PROGRAMS, IMPROVEMENTS NOT ONLY IN THE HUMANITARIAN SPHERE, BUT IN AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION HAVE BEEN REPORTED BY OFFICIALS OF OUR OWN AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS AS WELL AS BY RESPECTED JOURNALISTS.

THERE HAS, THEN, BEEN IMPROVEMENT, BUT IT IS NECESSARY THAT THE WORK CONTINUE. MY DELEGATION HOPES THAT THOSE UN MEMBERS IN A POSITION TO DO SO WILL SUPPORT THIS EFFORT AND WILL COOPERATE AS NEEDED WITH THE ICRC AND CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES TO ASSURE THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR.

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